



NEWS ADVISORY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY REACTION TO MAY REVISION BUDGET PLAN

May 16, 2011 – Los Angeles County is closely analyzing the details released today in Governor Brown's May Budget Revision. Additional details of the potential impact on the County will be released as they become available.

"The biggest impact to us, by far, within the May Revision is the continuance of Governor Brown's plan to shift responsibility for certain programs from the State to counties, known as realignment" said William T Fujioka, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer.

"We're pleased that Governor Brown remains committed to working with Los Angeles County on a realignment plan that includes secure and permanent funding to operate the programs he proposes shifting. The requirement for a permanent long term funding source for these programs has been conveyed by our Board of Supervisors on many occasions over the last several months."

An initial review of the May Revision reveals a few, but significant changes to the original proposal in January. This includes removing the realignment of fire protection services, a \$52 million proposal that would have eliminated the state's current reimbursements to handful of local governments for fire and emergency services.

Also changed from the January proposal was a plan to shift from the state to counties the responsibility for providing mental health services to special education students (under AB 3632). The program will now be realigned to local school districts instead of counties.

"We need to understand how the Governor proposes to provide the secure, long-term revenue to counties needed to fund realignment," said Fujioka. "At this point is it unclear how he plans to proceed."

One of the most pressing matters is the imminent loss of over \$82 million in State Vehicle License funding for our Probation Department, which is set to expire on June 30th, unless some action is taken to extend this funding. This problem compounds other workload and funding reductions in Probation over the years. Without an immediate resolution by the State, we have no choice but to consider tough measures for that Department in the coming months, including potential layoffs.